

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 209122

FOLLOWING REPEAT PARIS 22239 ACTION STATE INFO

PHNOM PENH GENEVA DATED 9/20/74.

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 22239

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OCON, UNESCO, CB

SUBJECT: GKR CREDENTIALS VOTE AT UNESCO 18TH GENERAL
CONFERENCE

REF: (A) PARIS 21509; (B) PARIS 21757; (C) PARIS 18840

SUMMARY: PERMDEL DISCUSSED WITH GKR UNESCO PERMDELOFF TACTICS FOR IMMINENT UNESCO VOTE ON GKR CREDENTIALS AND EMPHASIZED NEED FOR ACTIVE GKR LOBBYING COMMENSURATE WITH U.S. EFFORTS; PARTICULARLY NEED TO ENSURE THAT MEMBER STATES DELEGATIONS TO UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE BE FULLY INSTRUCTED BY THEIR HOST GOVERNMENTS.

1. SENQ LONG YI, FIRST SECRETARY OF GKR PERMDEL AND SELF-DESCRIBED "ASSISTANT" TO GKR PERNREP TO UNESCO AMBASSADOR ESSARO SISOWATH, CALLED ON DELOFF SEPT 18 TO DISCUSS TACTICS RE LIKELY CHALLENGE TO KHMER REPUBLIC CREDENTIALS AT UNESCO 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE. YI SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHEN ESSARO INTENDED TO RETURN FROM PHNOM PENH.

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2. DELOFF OUTLINED CURRENTLY UNPROMISING OUTLOOK FOR VOTE AS REPORTED REFTEL.

3. DELOFF SUGGESTED, AND YI APPEARED TO AGREE, THAT KHMER REPUBLIC DELEGATION BEGIN CONTACTING OTHER PERMDELS TO UNESCO AS FOLLOWS:

- A) THANK PERMDELS CONCERNED (ESPECIALLY AFRICANS AND LATIN AMERICANS) FOR PAST SUPPORT AND FORMALLY REQUEST SUPPORT AGAIN AT THIS GENERAL CONFERENCE. PERSONAL CALLS AS WELL AS FORMAL DIPLOMATIC NOTES WERE RECOMMENDED.
- B) SEEK ACTIVE HELP OF ASIANS IN LOBBYING FOR SUPPORT AMONG LDC'S WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO AFRICANS, AS LATTER GIVE CONSIDERABLE WEIGHT TO POSITION OF MAJORITY IN GEOGRAPHIC REGION CONCERNED WHEN MEMBERSHIP ISSUES ARISE. YI FELT INDONESIA AND MALAYSIA MIGHT BE PARTICULARLY INCLINED TO RENDER THIS TYPE OF ASSISTANCE.
- (C) FOCUS PARTICULAR ATTENTION ON AFRICANS WITH OBJECT OF AT LEAST KEEPING AS MANY AS POSSIBLE IN ABSTENTION COLUMN E.G. SEVERAL FRANCOPHONES, ETHIOPIA AND NIGERIA IN ADDITION TO PRESERVING RELATIVELY FEW "YES" VOTES AMONG AFRICANS, AS UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE LAST FALL, E.G., LIBERIA, MALAWI, GHANA.
- (D) SEEK POSSIBLE SWITCHES AMONG ARABS FROM OPPOSITION TO ABSTENTION. YI SAID GKR THOUGHT EGYPTIANS MIGHT BE MAJOR POSSIBILITY. BASED ON RECENT CIRCUIT OF NORTH AFRICA BY GKR EMISSARY. HOWEVER AS SAME OFFICIAL ALSO REPORTED LIBYANS MIGHT RESPOND TO GKR APPEAL, DELOFF QUESTIONED VALIDITY THESE IMPRESSIONS.

4. PERMREP AND DELOFF STRESSED TO YI THAT, UNLIKE UNGA, MOST MEMBER STATE DELEGATIONS TO UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE ARE LED BY SENIOR OFFICIALS IN EDUCATION-CULTURE-INFORMATION AREAS AND, AS WAS CASE WITH LAST OCTOBER UNESCO VOTE, MAY VERY LIKELY BE WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS AND ABSTAIN OR VOTE AGAINST IN INTEREST REGIONAL

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SOLIDARITY. WHILE FOREIGN MINISTRIES WILL PRESUMABLY HAVE ISSUED EXPLICIT INSTRUCTIONS FOR UNGA, THERE IS STRONG POSSIBILITY THESE WILL NOT BE TRANSMITTED AS MATTER OF COURSE TO OTHER MINISTRIES DELEGATIONS ATTENDING SUPPOSEDLY "APOLITICAL" UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCES.

. FINALLY DELOFF SUGGESTED PREPARATION OF SHEET OF "TALKING POINTS" IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH STATING OBJECTIVE

FACTS OF CAMBODIAN SITUATION TO OFFSET, INTER ALIA,
PREVALENT LDC MISCONCEPTIONS OF SIHANOUK AS "AUTHENTIC"
NEUTRALIST-NATIONALIST LEADER IN INDEPENDENT CONTROL OF
ENTIRELY "CAMBODIAN" INSURGENT FORCES.

6. PERMDEL STRESSED THAT GKR CREDENTIALS ISSUA HAD
PRIORITY US FOCUS BUT THAT CONCURRENTLY ACTIVE GKR
PERMDEL EFFORT WAS INDISPENSABLE IN VIEW OF MORE THAN
125 OF MEMBER STATES LIKELY ATTEND UNESCO GENERAL
CONFERENCE.

COMMENT: GKR EMBASSY AND ESPECIALLY GKR PERMDEL AT
UNESCO NEED TO HAVE APPROPRIATELY HIGH RANKING OFFICIALS
BEGIN SOONEST IN MAKING CONTACTS SUGGESTED ABOVE.
SIMILAR SUGGESTIONS WERE MADE TO PHAN BUOY HAK, CULTURAL
COUNSELLOR AT GKR EMBASSY, WHO IN CONTRAST TO VIRTUAL
INVISIBILITY AND INACTIVITY OF GKR UNESCO PERMDELOFFS,
HAS DEMONSTRATED AN ACTIVE CONCERN FOR MAINTAINING GKR
IN UNESCO. THIS CONVERSATION WAS REFLECTED IN VIEWS HAK
SENT GKR (REF B). IN VIEW OF QUARRELS WITHIN OFFICIAL
KHMER COMMUNITY, PARTICULARLY GKR UNESCO PERMDEL CONCERN
FOR PRESERVING JURISDICTIONAL AUTHORITY OVER UNESCO
AFFAIRS FROM GKR EMBASSY "ENCROACHMENT", DELOFF MADE
ONLY PASSING REFERENCE TO CONTACT WITH HAK (REF C).

FOR DEPARTMENT: PERMDEL ASSUMES THAT UNESCO VOTE ON
GKR CREDENTIALS NOT BEING OVERLOOKED IN EFFORTS RE GKR
VOTE AT UNGA. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED (REFTEL) (A)
UNESCO VOTE PROBABLY AT OPENING OF GENERAL CONFERENCE
SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 15 BUT LIKELY BE POSTPONED TO
OCTOBER 17. PERMDEL UNDERSTANDING IS THAT UNESCO VOTE
MAY PRECEDE UNGA VOTE. AS MANY CHIEFS OF DELEGATIONS
UNESCO GENERAL WILL NOT RPT NOT BE FROM
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COUNTRIES FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTRIES, BUT INSTEAD FROM
MINISTRIES CONCERNED WITH SUBSTANTIVE UNESCO AFFAIRS,
IT IS IMPORTANT TO ENSURE THESE DELEGATIONS FULLY
INSTRUCTED. PERMDEL HAS BEGUN ADVISING LDC'S,
ESPECIALLY AFRICAN PERMDELS, HERE OF PRIME IMPORTANCE
US ATTACHES THIS VOTE. RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS SHOULD
ALSO BE SO INFORMED.
IRWIN UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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